

United States Government

Department of Energy

# memorandum

DATE: AUG 28 2007

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: EM-60 (Chung, 202-586-5151)

SUBJECT: Request for Approval of Page Changes to WIPP Safety Basis Documents

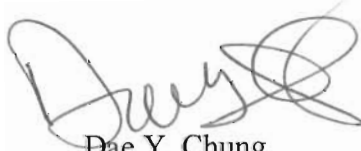
TO: David Moody, Manager, Carlsbad Field Office

REF: Page Changes and Safety Evaluation Report

Based on my review of the Safety Evaluation Report (SER) and the safety basis page changes to support the use of self-contained self-rescuers (SCSRs) in the waste handling/disposal portion of the WIPP underground, I am approving the SER.

Approval of the Page Changes responds to the newly-issued New Mexico State Mining Law 69-8-16 to provide SCSRs in the WIPP underground. The availability of SCSRs and trauma kits into the underground will provide greater protection of workers than is provided in the current safety basis and that risk to the public and the environment resulting from the changes is bounded by the current safety basis analysis. No condition of approval is necessary in conjunction with the Page Changes.

I have signed the attached SER for your records and transmittal to the contractor. If you have any further questions, please call me at (202) 586-5151.



Dae Y. Chung  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for  
Safety Management and Operations  
Environmental Management

Attachment

# memorandum

Carlsbad Field Office  
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221

DATE: **AUG 21 2007**

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: CBFO:OSO:RF:KJB:07-0551:UFC5486

SUBJECT: Request for Approval of Page Changes to WIPP Safety Basis Documents

TO: Dae Chung, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Safety Management and Operations Office of Environmental Management

The Washington TRU Solutions (WTS) prepared the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) safety basis page changes to support the use of self-contained self-rescuers (SCSRs) in the waste handling/disposal portion of the WIPP underground. Those changes are identified as CH-2007-002 and RH-2007-001 and are attached with this memorandum. CH-2007-002 and RH-2007-001 were provided to the Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO) with a WTS letter dated June 26, 2007, (Unique No. 0701761) for review and DOE approval. The changes apply to the WIPP safety basis documents as indicated below:

- Change CH-2007-002 to DOE/WIPP-95-2065, Revision 10, November 2006, *Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Contact Handled (CH) Waste Documented Safety Analysis (DSA)* and DOE/WIPP-95-2125, Revision 10, November 2006, *Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Contact Handled (CH) Technical Safety Requirements (TSRs)*.
- Change RH-2007-001 to DOE/WIPP-06-3174, Revision 0, March 2006, *Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Remote Handled (RH) Waste Documented Safety Analysis (DSA)* and DOE/WIPP-06-3178, Revision 0, March 2006, *Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Contact Handled (RH) Technical Safety Requirements (TSRs)*.

CBFO is required by the newly-issued New Mexico State Mining Law 69-8-16 to provide SCSR in the WIPP underground. The changes also allow the incorporation of compressed gas oxygen bottles associated with trauma kits into life safety equipment deployed in the waste handling/disposal portion of the WIPP underground to enhance worker safety. CBFO concludes that approval of CH-2007-002 and RH-2007-001 will provide greater protection of workers than is provided in the current safety basis and that risk to the public and the environment resulting from the changes is bounded by the current safety basis documents.

The attached Safety Evaluation Report (SER), also attached, provides the basis for approval for CH-2007-002 RH-2007-001.

AUG 21 2007

Dae Chung

-2-

If you have any questions or comments regarding this matter, please contact Gary Scott at (505) 234-7336.



David C. Moody  
Manager

Attachments

cc: w/ attachments

B. Nelson, EM 60	*ED
P. Agee, EM 60	ED
L. Piper, CBFO	ED
V. Daub, CBFO	ED
G. Basabilvazo, CBFO	ED
G. Scott, CBFO	ED
J. Plum CBFO	ED
R. Farrell, CBFO	ED
F. Holbrook, CBFO	ED
E. Preciado, CBFO	ED
D. Raaz, WTS	ED
F. Sharif, WTS	ED
D. Steffen, WTS	ED
D. Busche, WTS	ED
A. Strait, WTS	ED
B. Wierzbicki, WRES	ED
CBFO M & RC	

\*ED denotes electronic distribution

## AUTHORITY APPROVAL


### Safety Evaluation Report

**(1) Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Contact Handled (CH) Waste Documented  
Safety Analysis, Revision 10, and Technical  
Safety Requirements, Revision 10, Change CH-2007-002**

**(2) Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Remote Handled (RH) Waste Documented  
Safety Analysis, Revision 0 and the Technical  
Safety Requirements, Revision 0, Change RH-2007-001**

**U. S. Department of Energy  
Carlsbad Field Office**

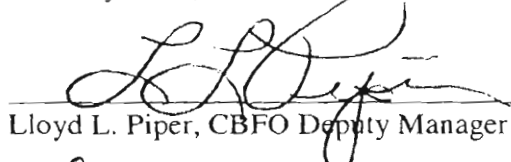
Date: July 2007

  
Richard Farrell, DOE Review Team Leader

Date: 8/16/2007

  
Dr. Gary Scott, DOE AB Senior Technical Advisor

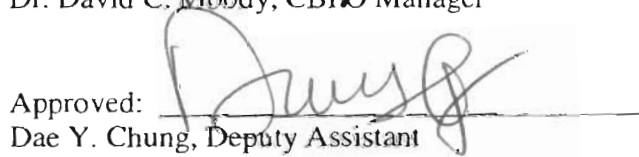
Date: 8/20/07

  
Lloyd L. Piper, CBFO Deputy Manager

Date: 8/20/07

  
Dr. David C. Moody, CBFO Manager

Date: 8/21/07

Approved:   
Dae Y. Chung, Deputy Assistant  
Secretary for Safety Management and Operations,  
Office of Environmental Management

Date: 8/28/07